

Books About Architecture, City Planning, and the Natural World

***Glass House: The 1% Economy and the Shattering of the All-American Town* by Brian Alexander New 330.69771 Alexander**
In 1947, Forbes magazine declared Lancaster, Ohio the epitome of the all-American town. Today it is damaged, discouraged, and fighting for its future. In *Glass House*, journalist Brian Alexander uses the story of one town to show how seeds sown 35 years ago have sprouted to give us Trumpism, inequality, and an eroding national cohesion.

***Big & Green: Toward Sustainable Architecture in the Twenty-First Century* edited by David Gissen 720.47 Big**
More than a century after its inception, the skyscraper has come of age. Though it has long been lampooned as a venal and inhospitable guzzler of resources, a revolutionary new school of skyscraper design has refashioned the idiom with buildings that are sensitive to their environments, benevolent to their occupants, and economically viable to build and maintain.

***Classic Modern Homes of the Thirties* by James Ford 728.37 Ford**
Splendid pictorial record of architectural style strongly influenced by Bauhaus movement. Over 300 illustrations show interiors, exteriors. Details on construction, site, cost, more.

***American Houses: A Field Guide to the Architecture of the Home* by Gerald L. Foster 728.0973 Foster**
While other architectural field guides show only façades, this book includes floor plans, showing how the form of a house arises from its function. Photographs and drawings of exteriors illustrate the significant field marks of each style and help pinpoint the key elements that can identify a house even when it has been remodeled beyond recognition.

***You Belong to the Universe: Buckminster Fuller and the Future* by Jonathan Keats B Fuller**
The creations of inventor Buckminster Fuller often bordered on science fiction: the geodesic dome, the three-wheeled car, a bathroom requiring no plumbing. Despite his brilliant mind and life-long devotion to serving mankind, Fuller's ideas were often dismissed. This book documents his six-decade quest to "make the world work for 100% of humanity."

***Yamasaki in Detroit: A Search for Serenity* by John Gallagher 720.92 Gallagher**
Although his best-known project was the World Trade Center, architect Minoru Yamasaki (1912-1986) worked to create moments of surprise, serenity, and delight in distinctive buildings around the world. In his adopted home of Detroit, Yamasaki produced many important designs, ranging from public buildings to offices and private residences.

***Building Art: The Life and Work of Frank Gehry* by Paul Goldberger B Gehry**
At once a sweeping view of a great architect and an intimate look at creative genius, *Building Art* is in many ways the saga of the architectural milieu of the twenty-first century. But most of all it is the compelling story of the man who first comes to mind when we think of the lasting possibilities of buildings as art.

***New York Streetscapes: Tales of Manhattan's Significant Buildings and Landmarks* by Christopher Gray 720.9747 Gray**
Gray's engaging tales of historic Gotham locales transport readers back in time for a stroll through the streets of old New York. The noted architectural historian, who writes the "Streetscapes" column in "The New York Times," here gathers 190 of the best-loved of those columns to captivate readers.

***The Comforts of Home: the American House and the Evolution of Modern Convenience* by Merritt Ierley 696 Ierley**
The Age of Technology is nowhere made more personal than at home. Modern convenience shapes our daily routine, making today's American house a place of comfort, the like of which has never been known. Yet of all aspects of modern technology, it is the evolution of what is in the household that has been least written about.

***Grand Avenues: the Story of the French Visionary Who Designed Washington, D.C.* by Scott W. Berg B Lenfant**
Grand Avenues tells the riveting story of Pierre Charles L'Enfant and the creation of Washington D.C. – from the seeds of his inspiration to the fulfillment of his extraordinary vision. Here is a fascinating, little-explored episode in American history: the story of a visionary artist and of the founding of the magnificent city that is his enduring legacy.

***Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* by Richard Louv 305.23 Louv**
Nature-deficit disorder is not a medical condition; it is a description of the human costs of alienation from nature. This alienation damages children. There are solutions, though, right in our own backyards. Richard Louv's work brings together cutting-edge research showing that direct exposure to nature is essential for healthy childhood development.

***Alden B. Dow: Midwestern Modern* by Diane Maddex**

O 720.924 Maddex

A Midwesterner by birth, Dow left a legacy national in nature. Active from the early 1930s through the late 1970s, he designed some 600 projects – often daringly modern. Dow changed the face of his hometown of Midland, Michigan, leaving it more than 100 houses, offices, and plants for The Dow Chemical Company, churches, banks, schools, and recreational structures. (And your library! ☺)

***A Field Guide to American Houses* by Virginia McAlester**

720.0973 McAlester

This guide enables you to identify, and place in their historic and architectural contexts, the houses you see in your neighborhood or in your travels across America, whether the houses were built in the 17th century or only a few years ago.

***Green Psychology: Transforming Our Relationship to the Earth* by Ralph Metzner**

291.1783 Metzner

A visionary ecopsychologist examines the rift between human beings and nature and shows what can be done to bring harmony to both the ecosystem and our own minds.

***Wild Comfort: The Solace of Nature* by Kathleen Dean Moore**

113 Moore

In an effort to make sense of the deaths in quick succession of several loved ones, Kathleen Dean Moore turned to the comfort of the wild, making a series of solitary excursions into ancient forests, wild rivers, remote deserts, and windswept islands to learn what the environment could teach her in her time of pain. This book is the record of her experiences.

***A \$500 House in Detroit: Rebuilding an Abandoned Home and an American City* by Drew Philp**

New B Philp

A young writer's sincere search (with his dog) for an authentic life – buying a ruined house in Detroit for \$500, fixing it up nail by nail, and, in the process, participating in the grassroots rebirth of the city itself.

***Mother Nature Is Trying To Kill You: A Lively Tour Through the Dark Side of the Natural World* by Dan Riskin**

591.53 Riskin

Using the seven deadly sins as a road map, Riskin offers dozens of jaw-dropping examples that illuminate how brutal nature can truly be and shows ways this deadly world has shaped us as humans and what our responsibilities are to this terrible, wonderful planet we call home.

***The Architecture of Alden B. Dow* by Sidney Robinson**

720.924 Robinson

The first comprehensive review of the architecture of Alden B. Dow, the book examines Dow's singular approach to design of private houses and public buildings.

***City Life: Urban Expectations in a New World* by Witold Rybczynski**

711.4 Rybczynski

In this vivid description of everything from the early colonial settlements to the advent of the skyscraper to the changes wrought by the automobile, the telephone, the airplane, and telecommuting, Rybczynski reveals how our urban spaces have been shaped by the landscapes and lifestyles of the New World.

***The Perfect House* by Witold Rybczynski**

720.92 Rybczynski

Embracing the elements of bestselling and award-winning author Rybczynski's most successful books on domestic architecture, "Home" and "The Most Beautiful House in the World" this charming, revelatory meditation explores the dawn of domestic architecture, and provides a new way of looking at every building.

***Fallingwater Rising: Frank Lloyd Wright, E.J. Kaufmann, and America's most extraordinary house* by Franklin Toker**

728.372 Toker

Scholars and the public have long extolled the house that Frank Lloyd Wright perched over a Pennsylvania waterfall in 1937, but the full story has never been told. Franklin Toker studied Fallingwater for 18 years; no one else could have given us this compelling saga of the most famous private house in the world and the dramatic story of the people who made and used it.

***The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative* by Florence Williams**

New 155.9 Williams

An investigation into the restorative benefits of nature draws on cutting-edge research and the author's explorations with international nature therapy programs to examine the relationship between nature and human cognition, mood, and creativity.

***From Bauhaus to Our House* by Tom Wolfe**

720.973 Wolfe

The strange saga of American architecture in the 20th century makes for both comedy and intellectual excitement as Wolfe debunks the Euro gods of modern and postmodern architecture and their American counterparts.

***The Living City* by Frank Lloyd Wright**

711 Wright

Frank Lloyd Wright's plan for Broadacre City is an imagining of what he believed American population centers could be.